



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

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| 2005 Assembly Bill 187 | Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 |
| <i>Memo published: June 8, 2005</i> <i>Contact: Mark C. Patronskey, Senior Staff Attorney (266-9280)</i> | |

Current law creates the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2005 Program which is administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The stewardship program provides bonding authority to the state for various land acquisition and conservation purposes. The DNR may award grants to local governmental units and nonprofit conservation organizations, which may acquire and hold land for the same purposes.

Assembly Bill 187 imposes the following requirements related to property purchased with stewardship funds:

- The DNR is required to create and make available for a fee a directory of land that is purchased with stewardship funds and that is open to the public.
- The DNR is directed to provide a mapping tool on its website that identifies public land purchased with stewardship funds.
- The owner of land purchased with stewardship funds is required to post notice of public access to the land with signs at specified locations. These signs must also list activities that are prohibited on the land.
- If a nonprofit conservation organization obtains DNR approval to charge a fee for hunting on the land, the fee charged may not exceed the amount charged for daily admission to a state park for a resident.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 makes the following changes and additions to Assembly Bill 187:

- The deadlines for the DNR to create a map on its website, and to prepare a directory of all land purchased under the stewardship program, is changed from 18 months after the effective date of the legislation to 48 months after the effective date.
- The notice of public access to land acquired with stewardship funds must be posted within six months after the disbursement of stewardship funds. The bill requires posting immediately.
- The deadline for posting notice of public access on land acquired with stewardship funds prior to the effective date of the legislation is changed from 18 months to 48 months.
- The information required to be placed on the signs regarding public access is modified. Signs for smaller acreages must only contain the primary activities that are restricted and the name of the owner of the property or a person to contact. Land that has cumulative acreage of 10 acres or more must also include either the address or telephone number of the owner of the land, the address or telephone number of a person to contact or an Internet website where the person can obtain information about the owner or contact person.
- The substitute amendment adds a provision regarding time deadlines for replacement of signs regarding public access that must be replaced.

Legislative History

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Friske on May 24, 2005. The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, on June 1, 2005, recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0.

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